

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/759,582

Examiner

Rakesh K. Dhingra

Applicant(s)

MARINER ET AL.

Art Unit

1792

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to After final amendment dt. 12/17/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-4, 6-9, 13, 14, 17 and 18.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☒ Other Note for typo correction.

Rakesh K. Dhingra

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2-4, 6-9, 13, 14, 17 and 18 allowed.

Election/Restrictions

Claims 2-4, 6-9, 13, 14 and 17 are directed to an allowable product. Pursuant to the procedures set forth in MPEP § 821.04(B), claim 18, directed to the non-elected species 5 previously withdrawn from consideration as a result of a restriction requirement, is hereby rejoined and fully examined for patentability under 37 CFR 1.104.

Because all claims previously withdrawn from consideration under 37 CFR 1.142 have been cancelled/rejoined, **the restriction requirement as set forth in the Office action mailed on 10/12/2005 is hereby withdrawn.** In view of the withdrawal of the restriction requirement as to the rejoined inventions, applicant(s) are advised that if any claim presented in a continuation or divisional application is anticipated by, or includes all the limitations of, a claim that is allowable in the present application, such claim may be subject to provisional statutory and/or nonstatutory double patenting rejections over the claims of the instant application. Once the restriction requirement is withdrawn, the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 121 are no longer applicable. See *In re Ziegler*, 443 F.2d 1211, 1215, 170 USPQ 129, 131-32 (CCPA 1971). See also MPEP § 804.01.

Reasons for Allowance

Claim 13: closest prior arts (Moore et al – US Patent 5,710,407, and Divakar et al – US PGPUB 2002/0185487) do not teach claim limitation “wherein two electrical conductors are symmetrically disposed on opposite sides of an exterior surface of the graphite shaft”, in the context of remaining limitations of the claim.

Claim 14: closest prior arts (Moore et al – US Patent 5,710,407, and Divakar et al – US PGPUB 2002/0185487) do not teach claim limitation “wherein said two electrical conductors are coated layers of

pyrolytic graphite symmetrically disposed on opposite sides of said graphite shaft wherein two electric conductors each extend lengthwise along the graphite shaft and are integral therewith” in the context of remaining limitations of the claim.

Claim 17: closest prior arts (Moore et al – US Patent 5,710,407, and Divakar et al – US PG PUB 2002/0185487) do not teach claim limitation “wherein said first electrical conductor is in a form of a graphite rod, the second electrical conductor is a hollow graphite rod, and wherein the first and second electrical conductors are separated by means of a coating layer” in the context of remaining limitations of the claim.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rakesh K. Dhingra whose telephone number is (571)-272-5959. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 -6:00 (Monday - Friday).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, Parviz Hassanzadeh can be reached on (571)-272-1435. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Application/Control Number:
10/759,582
Art Unit: 1792

Page 4

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Rakesh K. Dhingra



Ram N. Kackar
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1792

Note for Typographical Correction to the Final Rejection dated 08/22/07

1) In the headers for rejection of claim 6 (on page 5 of the office action), claim 11 (on page 6 of the office action) and claims 12, 15, 16, (on page 7 of the office action) the prior art reference number for Honma et al reference was mistyped – the correct reference number should read as US Patent No. 5,748,436 (instead of US Patent No. 5,478,436);

2) On page 8, line 1 - under “Allowable Subject Matter”, for Claim 14 the remarks should read “Claim 14 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action”.